

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7846

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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1. GOG ANNOUNCED MARCH 10 THAT GEORGE PAPOULIAS HAS BEEN NAMED GREEK PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE AT UN REPLACING AMBASSADOR CARAYANNIS WHO IS SCHEDULED TO RETURN TO MFA. IT IS EXPECTED PAPOULIAS WILL DEPART ATHENS FOR NEW YORK WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. (DEMETRIOS VELISSAROPOULOS, WHO HAD BEEN SLATED EARLIER TO REPLACE CARYANNIS, IS NOW BEING ASSIGNED TO MFA AS DIRECTOR OF CYPRUS AND TURKISH AFFAIRS.)

2. PAPOULIAS WAS BORN IN 1927 IN REGION OF ARCADIA IN PELOPONNESUS. HE IS A GRADUATE OF ATHENS HIGHER SCHOOL OF ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SCIENCES AND OF THE LAW SCHOOL, ATHENS UNIVERSITY. PREVIOUS ASSIGNMENTS INCLUDE ATTACHE AT NEW DELHI, FIRST SECRETARY AT BONN, COUNSELOR TO GREEK PERMANENT DELEGATION IN GENEVA, AND DCM IN PARIS (1971?-1975). HE SPEAKS EXCELLENT ENGLISH AND FRENCH.

3. HE IS GREGARIOUS, OUTGOING AND WAS WELL KNOWN TO AMBASSADOR KUBISCH WHEN THE LATTER SERVED IN PARIS AS DCM SEVERAL YEARS AGO. PAPOULIAS WAS A BACHELOR AT THE TIME ALTHOUGH WE UNDERSTAND HE HAS SINCE MARRIED. WE ARE UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT PAPOULIAS, WHO SERVED AS CHARGE IN PARIS FOR MANY, MANY MONTHS, ALSO MAINTAINED A RESPECTFUL CONTACT WITH CARAMANLIS WHILE IN FRANCE; AND THIS HAD NO DOUBT CONTRIBUTED TO HIS ELEVATION TO

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THIS HIGHLY IMPORTANT NEW ASSIGNMENT FOR GREECE. WHILE

HE MAY BE KEPT ON A RELATIVELY TIGHT LEASH AT THE UN AS
LONG AS FOREIGN MINISTER KITSIOS--HIMSELF AN EXPERIENCED
UN HAND--IS AT THE HELM IN ATHENS, WE WOULD EXPECT
THAT PAPOULIAS WILL MAKE A MAJOR EFFORT TO TRY AND
COOPERATE CLOSELY WITH HIS AMERICAN COLLEAGUES IN
NEW YORK.
KUBISCH

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